depleted of activity of proteins that bind polyadenylate;

B1 cont'd

ii) a source of ATP; and

iii) [said] an exogenous target RNA sequence.

In claim 2, lines 1, 2 and 3, please change the occurrences of "turnover" to - - deadenylation and degradation - -.

Please cancel claims 7 and 8.

In claim 9, line 1, please change "8" to - - 1 - -.

In claim 21, lines 5 and 6, please change the occurrences of "turnover" to - - deadenylation and degradation - -.

In claim 27, line 1, please change "turnover" to - - deadenylation and degradation - -.

In claim 33, lines 7 and 8, please change both occurrences of "turnover" to - - deadenylation and degradation - -.

Please rewrite claim 38 as follows.

SUB C13 B2

38. (Amended) The method of claim 36 [33] wherein said determining the extent of deadenylation and degradation [turnover] of said target RNA sequence comprises determining the extent of degradation of said labeled target RNA.

Please amend claim 46 as follows.

SUB C16 B3

46. (Amended) A method for identifying an agent capable of modulating regulated [the] deadenylation of a target RNA sequence comprising

(A) providing a [the] system that recapitulates regulated RNA deadenylation of an exogenously-added preselected target RNA sequence comprising

i) a cytoplasmic extract supernatant from a 100,000 x g, 1 hour centrifugation isolated from eukaryotic cells or tissues, said extract depleted of activity of proteins that bind polyadenylate;

ii) said target RNA sequence [the system of claim 1 in the absence of a nucleotide triphosphate];

(B) introducing said agent into said system;

(C) monitoring the deadenylation of said target RNA sequence in said system; and

B3 cont'd

(D) identifying an agent able to modulate the extent of said deadenylation as capable of modulating the regulated deadenylation of said target RNA sequence.

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In claim 47, line 1, please change "the" to - - regulated - -.

In claim 51, line 6, please change "turnover" to - - deadenylation and degradation - -.

Please amend claim 53 as follows:

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53. (Twice Amended) A kit for monitoring the stability of a preselected exogenous target RNA sequence under conditions capable of recapitulating regulated RNA deadenylation and degradation [turnover], said kit comprising:

B4 SUB C19

(a) a cytoplasmic [cell] extract supernatant from a 100,000 x g, 1 hour centrifugation, said extract depleted of activity of proteins that bind polyadenylate;

(b) other reagents; and

(c) directions for use of said kit.

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***Remarks***

Claims 1, 2 and 4-55 are pending in the application. By way of the foregoing amendment, the subject matter of claims 7 and 8 have been incorporated into claims 1 and 46, the latter which has been rewritten as an independent claim. As a result, claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 9-55 are pending in